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**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Confirmation No.: 8479

HIKITA et al.

Art Unit: 2891

Serial No.: 10/615,876

Examiner: David Zarneke

Filing Date: July 10, 2003

Docket No.: 103213-00051

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND SEMICONDUCTOR CHIP FOR USE THEREIN

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

August 4, 2005

Sir:

The following election is being made in response to the Office Action dated July 5, 2005, in which the Office Action identified four (4) patentably distinct species of the claimed invention. The Office Action required the Applicants, under 35 U.S.C. § 121, to elect a single species for prosecution on the merits. The four species (4) identified in the Office Action are:

- Species I. Figure 2
- Species II. Figure 3
- Species III. Figure 4, and
- Species IV. Figure 5

The following table sets forth how the Applicants read the claims against the species of this application.

- Species I. Figure 2; claim 8
- Species II. Figure 3, claims 6, 7, 9, and 11
- Species III. Figure 4, claims 6, 7, 9, and 11, and
- Species IV. Figure 5, claims 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11.


Pursuant to the election of species requirement, the Applicants elect prosecution on the merits of Species II, as shown in Figure 3 without traverse. The Applicants submit that this species is recited in claims 6, 7, 9, and 11.

The Applicants also reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected species.

With the above election, the Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for examination on the merits. An early examination and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, **referencing Attorney Docket No. 103213-00051.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
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